U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE NRCS-CPA-53 12-02

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CONSERVATION EFFECTS BENCHMARK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Resource Setting:

North Cropland Unit (1a) - Crop seedling establishment (annual crops) is impaired by unsheltered winds from the northwest. Soil is being deposited along the east edge of the field. Soil A is the predominate soil type with slopes that range from 0-2%. No permanent cover is present. Limited fall hunting opportunities. Wind erosion in the field was 10 tons/acre/year. The habitat evaluation worksheet for the crop field resulted in a score of 0.2 for wildlife habitat.

Resource Concerns Before Treatment:

(Note: At this stage of planning, this section is not completed. The "concerns" are documented at the completion of Analysis of Resource Data, Step 4.)

Benchmark (Present management system)

Actions - Present Management

(kinds, amounts, and timing)

- Annual crop rotation
- Spring tillage with low residue cover at planting time
- N-S row direction
- Pest Management 595; Nutrient Management 590

Effects

(Effects of continuing the benchmark system)

(Note: At this stage of planning, the inventory data is not fully analyzed. The "effects" are documented at the completion of Analysis of Resource Data, Step 4.)

Comments: Discussion of other income producing ideas for this field included upland game bird hunting fees. The owners do not want to change their annual crop types, equipment, rotation and residue rates but are interested in windbreaks and other ways to control wind erosion and dust.